IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Mahishi et al.

Serial No.

To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Filed

November 19, 2003

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

For

Novel Escherichia coli having accession no PTA 1579 and its

use to produce polyhydroxybutyrate

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

November 19, 2003

EXPRESS MAIL NO. ER 589236644 US

Commissioner for Patents Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Mail Stop Patent Application

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the present application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin at page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.